

**In the Claims**

Claims 1-38 [canceled].

1           39. [Currently Amended] A data storage method comprising:  
2           storing digital data using a data storage system;  
3           communicating a plurality of transactions intermediate a plurality of  
4           components of the data storage system;  
5           processing the transactions using the components;  
6           using the components, effecting operations with respect to storage of  
7           digital data responsive to the processing;  
8           identifying one of the transactions from one of the components as  
9           including a fault; ~~and~~  
10          disabling communications of others of the transactions from the one  
11          component responsive to the identifying; and  
12          wherein the disabling comprises disabling communications comprising a first  
13          type of transactions from the one component, and further comprising receiving and  
14          processing a second type of transactions from the one component after the  
15          identifying and during the disabling of communications comprising the first type of  
16          transactions.

1           40. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 39 wherein the  
2           storing digital data comprises redundantly storing digital data using a plurality of  
3           redundant storage circuits of the data storage system.

1           41. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 39 wherein the  
2           disabling comprises disabling respective interfaces of the other components  
3           responsive to the identifying.

1           42. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 39 further  
2           comprising processing transactions using the other components after the  
3           disabling.

*Serial No. 10/688,487*  
*Case No. 10991599-3*  
*Amendment B*

Claims 43-58 [canceled].

1           59. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 39 wherein the storing  
2 comprises redundantly storing a single data item of the digital data in a plurality of  
3 storage devices.

1           60. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 59 wherein the storing  
2 comprises storing the single data item in the storage devices comprising hard disks.

Claims 61-62 [canceled].

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*Amendment B*